

## Message Text

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20

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-10 SS-15 STR-08

CEA-02 L-03 H-03 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /175 W

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R 052125Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8779

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, DR, US

SUBJECT: PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

1. PRESIDENT BALAGUER CONVERTED THE USUAL BRIEF AND PROTOCOLARY PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS CEREMONY AT 10:30 THIS MORNING INTO A TWENTY-MINUTE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION WHICH SEEMED TO RENEW A CONVERSATION WE HAD STARTED DURING OCTOBER 1971. HIS MANNER AND WELCOME WERE VERY WARM.

2. ON THE ECONOMIC SITUATION, BALAGUER PRONOUNCED IT AS "SATISFACTORY" (WHICH BORDERS ON EUPHORIA FOR HIM). HE WAS PERTURBED ABOUT THE SEVERE SHORTAGE OF CEMENT AND RE-INFORCING ROD WHICH WAS SEVERELY HAMPERING HIS CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM. HE ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE "MEAT CRISIS" THE COUNTRY WAS SUFFERING. HAVING COME RECENTLY FROM WASHINGTON, I COMMISERATED SINCERELY.

3. BALAGUER ATTRIBUTED THE HEAVY CONSUMER DEMAND TO THE SHARP INCREASE IN POPULATION. HE ESTIMATED THE POPULATION TO BE NEARLY 5,000,000. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, HE SAID THAT THE POPULATION CONTROL PROGRAM WAS IN PRIVATE HANDS, SUPPORTED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND TOLERATED BY THE CHURCH. HE EVINced CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN SEEING THE DEMOGRAPHIC PROJECTIONS FOR THE DR I MENTIONED I HAD

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REQUESTED JUST PRIOR TO LEAVING WASHINGTON.

ACTION REQUESTED: PHIL CLAXTON, PLEASE SEND A DUPLICATE SET OF THE COLORED CHARTS YOU ARE MAKING FOR ME SO THAT I MAY PRESENT IT TO PRESIDENT BALAGUER.

4. BALAGUER EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE US WOULD CONTINUE TO PROVIDE HIM ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND PREFERABLY INCREASE IT. I PROPOSED THAT I SEE HIM EARLY IN OCTOBER TO DISCUSS OUR ENTIRE AID PROGRAM WITH HIM IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN HIS OVERALL NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND OUR RELATIONSHIP TO IT. HE READILY AGREED, SAYING THAT THE AGRICULTURE/CATTLE SECTOR SEEMED THE MOST PROMISING AREA OF COOPERATION.  
HURWITCH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 SEP 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, DR, US  
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